

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSION OF ELDER AFFAIRS
STATE OF IOWA
MARCH 21, 2002**

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

A business meeting of the Commission of Elder Affairs was held on March 21, 2002 in Rooms 319 and 320 of the Lucas Building, Des Moines, IA.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PARTICIPATING:

Chairperson Harold Davis, Craig Downing, J. Russell Lowe.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Clemmie Hightower, Dr. Jane Paulsen, Dr. Yogesh Shah, Hazel Chuck, Representative Todd Taylor, Representative David Johnson, Senator Joe Bolkcom, Senator Sheldon Rittmer.

OTHERS:

Dr. Judith Conlin, Greg Anliker, Joel Wulf, Mary Ann Young, Diane Kuhl, Todd Savage, Linda Hildreth, Betty Grandquist.

Chairperson Harold Davis called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. The Commission Secretary conducted roll call. A quorum was not present. Since there was no official business to be voted on, the meeting continued.

I. MINUTES

**AGENDA
ITEM #1 A**

There were no corrections to the minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner Downing moved to accept the minutes of February 13, 2002. Commissioner Downing seconded the motion.

VOTE: Chairperson Harold Davis, aye; Craig Downing, aye; J. Russell Lowe, aye. Motion carried.

II. REPORTS

Director

**AGENDA
ITEM #2A**

Judy Conlin reported on the budget proposals regarding the elimination of the Alzheimer's funding. She shared that she had met with the directors of the Alzheimer's Chapters last October in order to give them advance notice of the elimination and opportunity to work with their AAA's. Conlin also convened a meeting in December with the Alzheimer Chapter Directors and Donna Harvey to provide strategies for the Alzheimer's directors in how to access Senior Living dollars, Case Management, and Family Caregiving dollars.

Christie Vilsack will be touring numerous Senior Centers, Assisted Living projects and other related senior activities in the coming weeks and months.

Conlin reported she would be the speaker at the St. John's Forum scheduled for May 14 at noon on WOI Radio. Conlin will also be giving the keynote for the Iowa Caregivers Conference on April 29.

Mary Ann Young noted the Driving Seminar will be held June 19-20 at the University Park Holiday Inn in Des Moines. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 20. The Governor's Conference on Aging will be held on May 20-21. For both of those Conferences, there will be reimbursement for Commissioner's motel, food and travel expenses.

Harold Davis has been invited to attend the Northwest Aging Board of Directors meeting on May 15 in Spencer and has graciously accepted that invitation.

II. REPORTS

Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging

**AGENDA
ITEM #2B**

The AAA meeting was addressed by Betty Grandquist, whose comments related to the Family Caregiver Program. Grandquist spoke of the questions she considers important regarding the family caregivers support: (1) Does it work? (2) Are all groups being helped? (3) How does it tie to other things in the State? (4) Will it continue to be funded? She commented that with the nursing and CNA shortages looming, there is a need to train as many caregivers as possible.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update/Performance Measures

**AGENDA
ITEM #3A**

Greg Anliker referred to two attachments showing how the Elder Affairs budget has been under spent. Cuts have been absorbed in the office and no employees will be furloughed. The department has been frugal since the beginning of FY02 and most areas are in good financial shape. Please refer to Attachments 3 and 4.

III. OLD BUSINESS SLP Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3B**

Judy Conlin reported on the Budget Hearings held and the number of individuals that attended. There is a critical need for the SL Trust to continue so seniors can stay in their homes longer. Please refer to Attachments 5 and 6.

III. OLD BUSINESS Legislative Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3C**

Joel Wulf reported on the following House and Senate bills:

HF 2488 - Relates to Title V Work Programs and is on its way to the Governor for signature.

HF 2247 -Resident Advocate Program - On Senate floor debate calendar.

HF 2075 - Senate Amendment 5239 -Repay Senior Living Trust. Passed on Senate Floor 3/21/02, \$35.5 million.

SSB 3187 - Nursing Recruitment and Retention - Department staff monitoring proposal to remove \$500,000 from Senior Living Trust.

Health and Human Services met on March 21. No additional cuts to Elder Affairs. GOP budget matches Governor's Family's First Budget. However, \$144,500 is being removed from Public Health for well elderly clinics, further stressing demand for service on AAA's.

III. OLD BUSINESS Elder Abuse Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3D**

Linda Hildreth stated the curriculum for the Mandatory Reporter Guide has been approved. The guide has also been placed on the Elder Affairs web page and can be downloaded. She also reported that the Department is working on a 2-year grant to conduct training on abuse, neglect, sexual assault and financial exploitation. This grant is a partnership with the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Department of Public Health, Department of Human Services and the Law Enforcement Academy for \$300,000 and should know by July 1, 2002 if we receive the award. Linda continued that we are looking for grants for two other projects. The first one is a public awareness and rejuvenation of TRIAD and the local SALTs. The other project is to update the DHS database system to marry the child abuse information with the dependent adult abuse data. There will also be 2 sessions offered to law enforcement officials, the aging network and health care providers on Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults and Older Iowans presented April 8 and 15, 2002. These sessions are free. There will also be a Dependent Adult Abuse Conference held June 18-19 in Ames.

Todd Savage spoke of the need to enhance systems to get all dependent adult abuse reported. He spoke of the beginning efforts being made: to train law enforcement, collaborate with the County Attorneys office, and develop various curriculum to get the word out to the masses to report abuse when it is suspected. Pages 18-21 were reviewed from the handout to convey the need for system enhancements and greater public awareness.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Administrative Rules Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3E**

Mary Ann Young stated that she would submit the Resident Advocate Rules to the Commission for review at the next meeting. There is a workgroup doing extensive review of the Assisting Living Rules, employment rules and dementia rules.

Adult Day Care

Joel Wulf stated that the Department has been in contact with the Attorney General's Office. The Attorney General recommended moving forward with rescinding Chapters 24 and 25 and will be forwarding this information to Dr. Conlin.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Iowa Caregiver Program Update

**AGENDA
ITEM #3F**

IV. OTHER

Joel Wulf spoke about the Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program. Iowa Priority has announced the addition of Bristol-Myers-Squibb and Merck as collaborative partners. Additional drug companies will be added in the future. The net result will be deeper drug discounts for Iowa's Medicare eligible seniors.

Chairman Harold Davis will be attending the Northwest Aging Association Board meeting on May 15, 2002 at the invitation of Cynthia Beauman.

Mary Ann Young invited all members to attend the Governors Conference on Aging on May 20 - 21 in Des Moines.

The Older Iowans Driving Seminar will be held June 19 in Des Moines and the next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2002.

V. ADJOURNMENT

**AGENDA
ITEM #5**

Commissioner Downing moved to adjourn. Commissioner Lowe seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Chair

Date

Recording Secretary
/dk